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Editorial

TWO years have now elapsed since the conclusion of the second great war of the century, but several of the world's most pressing problems still remain unsolved; friction and suspicion are rife even among some of the allies, and we hear talk of "opposing spheres of influence." The only possible solution seems to be for all nations and peoples to face their differences boldly, with a deeper understanding, and a broad outlook of tolerance and respect for the views of others; and this spirit is especially needed to animate the deliberations of the United Nations Organisation, in its search for security and peace.

Within our own Empire, we can hail the Dominion status granted to Hindustan and Pakistan as perhaps the most equitable solution to the problem of giving self-government to such a heterogeneous nation. We can only hope that the new India's leaders will be infused with the will to co-operate which will be needed so much in the difficult years ahead.

In Great Britain herself we are feeling the economic effects of war even more in the period of transition than we did in the actual years of war. Every wave reaches even the most remote corner of the lake, and the emergency has been brought home only too forcibly in the production of the School Magazine: the fuel crisis at the beginning of the year, and the increased costs of printing have left us with only two magazines this year instead of the three for which we had hoped. Still it is comforting to realise that the very spirit which the world so much needs today is the same spirit that the liberal education of our School aims to give its pupils; a wide knowledge of other nations and languages in the classroom, a spirit of team work and co-operation on the playing fields, and a spirit of service and tolerance in the corps and societies of the School.

Obituary

On the 20th of February we heard with deep regret of the death of COLIN STAFFORD. He entered the School as a Margaret Bryce Smith scholar in August, 1942. Throughout his career in the School he preferred science. He obtained distinctions in Chemistry and Mathematics when he took his School Certificate in July, 1946. Twice he won the Arthur Damsell Prize for Arithmetic. His outdoor activities were mainly the Boys' Brigade and umpiring at cricket, as for health reasons he could not take part actively in games. He was a member of the School Choral Society, and at the time of his death was a keen member of the cast of Owen House play. Those of us who knew him will have lost a great friend.

Chat on the Corridor

SINCE our last publication we have reluctantly had to say good-bye to three members of the staff. Mr. Dawson and Mr. Young have both gone to colleges to train teachers to follow in their footsteps. Mr. Rawlinson has left us to take up a training college post in Cambridgeshire. They go with our best wishes.

We welcome Mr. R. T. Jones, who has come back to us again; and Mr. H. E. Cullis of Durham University, Mr. M. Schofield of Liverpool University, Mr. D. C. Graham of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Mr. S. Reed from Manchester Grammar School.

In December, the Upper School had an opportunity of witnessing a "Trial" as envisaged by members of the Literary and Debating Society, arranged by its two secretaries. Mr. Justice Doughty presided; though there was a little vagueness, notably among all the witnesses who were called and the jury, the court and spectators rejoiced that Justice held her course.

The happy event of the previous year was repeated at Christmas when the Headmaster and Mrs. Edwards were present at a social given by the prefects and Upper Sixth form for the senior members of several of the girls' secondary schools of Liverpool.

Since our last issue the following have won awards at Oxford, in classics: D. W. MacDowall, an open scholarship at Corpus Christi College; J. Noonan, an open exhibition at New College; R. Shaw-Smith, an open scholarship at University College. At Cambridge, in classics: S. Boss, an open exhibition at Magdalene College; and at Cambridge, in modern languages: J. H. Eedle, an open exhibition at Downing College; E. A. Griffith, a minor scholarship at Christ's College.

During the fuel emergency, the School had to spend its time in the darkness of the Arctic winter, and the frozen snow on the yards provided a novel employment for the industrious.

Last term we all enjoyed a piano recital given in the hall by Mr. Lance Dossor. The School has also attended various concerts given for secondary schools by the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

The School was thrilled when it had its photograph taken in Hall this term, and the gentle explosion and cloud of dust added to the effect.

A swimming club has been formed under Mr. Killingley, and at present the visits to the baths are divided among the Houses. The club hopes to train our swimmers for inter-school championships, and the like.

* * *

House Notes

ALFRED HOUSE.

SINCE the last issue of the Magazine, the House has had moderate successes but has never managed to show a clear superiority over its rivals in any branch of its activities. Once again it has had to

depend upon a mere handful of keen members in attempting to regain the glories of a few years ago, and it is very disturbing to think that most of this indifference is to be found among the Juniors, the future backbone of the House. In the Junior Competition in the School Sports, Alfred came bottom of the table—a sharp contrast to the efforts of the Seniors, who were very narrowly beaten for first place.

This season we have been quite successful in Fives, but it is hoped that more of the Juniors will learn to play before the end of the year.

The House failed ingloriously in the Boswell Hockey Cup, being eliminated by Tate in the first round. Fortunately, it redeemed itself in the Horsfall Cup, by winning its way to the final, only to be beaten once again by Tate, to whom all credit must be given as the better team.

In the Hobby Show our failure was again due not to lack of quality, but to lack of quantity. There are many members of the House who promised to submit an entry but did not do so; this dilatory spirit could only have one result. The one consoling feature was the success of our play which, although unplaced in the final judging, was highly commended on all sides. On this count, we are indebted to our producer, Mr. W. G. Cretney, whom the House would also like to thank for his keen interest and support in all our other activities.

There is now only one major trophy open to us—the Whitehouse Cup. We have every reason to be optimistic about our chances, and even if we are not successful, it is certain that we shall not disgrace ourselves.

In conclusion, I would like to remind everybody concerned that the making of a first-rate House is dependent on the whole-hearted co-operation of all.

L. A. BARDSLEY.

DANSON HOUSE.

TO a certain extent misfortune can be blamed for the record of Danson House this year. All-round enthusiasm has been good, much hard work has been put in; both Senior and Junior teams reached the finals of the Horsfall Cup. We were top of the Hockey League, our only defeat in two terms being in the semi-final of the Boswell Cup, and yet we failed to carry off any of the trophies for these activities.

The most favourable item to report is the success of the House Play, which was the culmination of much hard work throughout the term by a small but competent band of actors. The points gained by the Play did much to help us in the Hobby Show where a good response in most sections enabled us to gain second place.

Our position in the Sports was, to say the least, disappointing. The Juniors had the pleasure of winning the Junior Tug-of-War, but both the Seniors and Juniors, although reaching the relay race finals, were outclassed by better runners. Cricket, Fives and the Gym

Competition are yet to come; we will make no predictions but at least our prospects are more hopeful.

Our results have been disappointing yet we have not been lacking in keenness and enthusiasm, of which our House Master, Mr. Bentliff, is a symbol. We might have done much worse; we will do much better.

K. S. TODD.

HUGHES HOUSE.

LET us face the facts at once: an apathy is creeping over the middle forms of the House which, if allowed to continue, will mean ruin in next year's activities. This has largely been the result of the amazing amount of ill-luck that has been experienced during the year—notably in the House Play and Hockey Competitions, in both of which we were runners-up.

The first fruits of this apathy were exhibited in our failure in the Sports—to be fourth is decidedly not good enough. Individuals, however, have done very well; several members won high places in the Hobby Show; the Hockey forward-line proved itself equal to any in the School. A. D. Brown was "Victor Ludorum" with a grand total of 28 points and Fraser was runner-up to the Middle Champion (congratulations to both of them!). How about everyone trying to pull his weight like this?

R. D. STRAPPS.

OWEN HOUSE.

ONCE again Owen has shown its supremacy in most of the House activities. The results of the Sports show in no uncertain manner the keenness and enthusiasm of all members, especially the Juniors, and we should like to congratulate R. Wilson on his success in winning the Junior Championship.

The football cup results were somewhat disappointing but they were amply compensated by the hockey eleven's victory in the first Boswell Cup Competition.

Interwoven in the scientific minds of the House is a distinctive musical aptitude; and our success in the Music Section of the Hobby Show proves this. Much of the effort of the Senior boys was spent in scientific work which did not count in the competition—and this, together with a certain lack of team spirit (the proper spirit did not appear until Sports Day) prevented the House from attaining first place.

These notes would not be complete without mention of the good work of Miss Harkness in the House play, and Mr. Morgan's enthusiastic encouragement in all our activities.

The House has made a great start, and set up a tradition to which all its future members may aspire.

N. E. DAVENPORT.

PHILIP HOLT

DURING the past two terms, the progress of the House has not been very consistent. The Junior football team won the Junior Horsfall Cup, while the Senior team managed to reach the inter-term final but was narrowly beaten. We were second in the School Sports, credit for this performance going chiefly to the Junior Section of the House. We must congratulate P. B. Watson who won the Middle Championship. In the Hobby Show, during the Easter Term, the House failed lamentably and in the various other School activities it did not distinguish itself.

Once again, our failings have been due to the lack of enthusiasm displayed by the Senior section of the House. The Juniors have been an example to the Seniors. Surely the position should have been the reverse!

However, I am sure that if each boy in the House pulls his weight, a greater amount of success will come our way. Therefore, let each member of the House strive to make Philip supreme in all spheres of school life.

Finally, the House would like to tender its appreciation of Mr. Booth's interest in all its activities.

L. A. RAWLINSON.

TATE HOUSE

SINCE the issue of the last magazine the success of Tate has in no way diminished. This fact is due almost entirely to the keenness of the Seniors who have always given very creditable performances in every activity. The majority of the Juniors have been most apathetic and all such drones must realise that unless they acquire some enthusiasm, the reflected glory of success in which they now bask, will unavoidably fade when the seniors of today have left.

The only triumph in which the Juniors had any considerable share was the Hobby Show. That we won this was all the more meritorious since the House play was placed only third, although this must, I suppose, have been a criticism of the choice of play rather than of the acting which was of a high standard throughout. The chess team of Seniors and a Junior drew its first game and won the remainder. The Seniors won the Horsfall Cup and their section of the sports, while the Juniors were knocked out in the first round of the Horsfall and did so badly in the sports that we were only third in the aggregate. In hockey alone (apart from the sports) the house failed to obtain some trophy.

For perhaps the most successful house, these notes may appear over-critical, but, although I would not minimise our present success, it is essential to arouse enthusiasm among all. Finally we must give our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Folland for his constant and loyal encouragement.

E. J. WILLCOX.

Association Football

THIS year the School teams have had one of the most disappointing seasons for many years. We shall always remember this winter as one of the severest in the history of football. Nearly half of the fixtures arranged had to be cancelled, and this, combined with the lack of practice and the bad conditions of the grounds, has led to a lowering of the standard of football played by the school.

It was hoped at the start of the season that the First XI, with seven of last season's team still available, would be a strong well-balanced side which would emulate the successes of recent years. It was soon evident that this was not to be the case. The main reasons for this failure were the lack of cohesion between the defence and attack and the insistence of the forwards in dribbling and passing when a shot would have been more valuable. The team was well beaten in the first round of the Senior Shield Competition by a much faster and more balanced side on a ground that was covered by a three-inch layer of snow.

The Second XI has not had a very successful season, owing mainly to the calls from the First XI, which has resulted in a large amount of experimental work. The Third XI has also had a poor season but a number of the team have shown promise of doing well in the future. For the first time in many seasons the Under 13 XI has had a full programme. This has been entirely due to the work of Mr. Rowell whose unceasing labour has produced the makings of a very powerful Junior Shield team.

I would like to thank those members of the Staff who have helped to run the School teams. Mr. Peters, with the support of Mr. Moy and Mr. Hart, worked tirelessly to remedy the more obvious faults in the First XI; Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. Telfer with the Second XI; Mr. Morgan and Mr. Booth with the Third XI; and Mr. Rowell with the Under 13 XI. The School teams owe a great deal to the coaching and advice of these masters without whom any success would be impossible. Thanks are also due to Mr. Reece for his organising and administrative work, L. A. Rawlinson for his work as Secretary, and to Edwin Wass for the hard work he has put in to get the Mersey Road ground into good condition.

Throughout the season the First XI has been chosen regularly from the following: Morris, E. J. Horton, Childs, Pemberton, E. J. Willcox, Lever, Lewis, Tishler, Boaz, Harvey, L. A. Rawlinson, Alecock.

These boys have also played: Owens, Rawlinson, P., Ridland, Barbour, McDermott.

E. J. HORTON.

COLOURS

Full Colours have been re-awarded to E. J. Willcox, L. A. Rawlinson, A. B. Morris, E. J. Horton.

Full Colours have been awarded to A. R. Childs, J. V. Alecock.

Half Colours have been awarded to H. Tishler, F. W. Harvey, J. A. Lever, A. L. Lewis.

RESULTS.

1st XI	...	Played 12	Won 4	Drew 1	Lost 7
2nd XI	...	Played 9	Won 4	Drew 1	Lost 4
3rd XI	...	Played 11	Won 4	Drew 1	Lost 6
Under 13 XI	...	Played 7	Won 3	Drew 3	Lost 1

* * *

Hockey Notes

AT the beginning of the season, hockey was wholly transferred from Riversdale Road to Greenbank Park, where two pitches were made available. Equipment was lacking, but George Wass soon provided us with an admirable set of goal-posts of his own construction.

The season started well; many new players attended the practice games. The House matches, which were played as often as possible, were keenly contested, and a number of promising players have been revealed, who should find places in future school teams.

During the latter half of the first term, the first rounds of the Boswell Cup were played, but because of the bad weather, the competition was not concluded until the end of the Easter Term, when Owen, by defeating Hughes in the final, became the first holders of the Cup. In normal years it is hoped to run this competition in the same way as the Horsfall Cup, with two separate term competitions, followed if necessary by an inter-term final.

At the beginning of the season only five of last year's team remained, four of whom were forwards. A completely new defence had to be constructed, but up to the last game of the season fresh combinations were being tried. At Christmas we lost R. G. Evans, an excellent player who did much to hold the team together, and another gap had to be filled. Next season should offer fewer difficulties of this nature, since such a large number of boys have started to play.

The second term was marked by the largest number of cancelled matches for many seasons, nine matches out of eleven being scratched. Among these was the annual match against Birkenhead School, which deprived the Under 15 XI of its only match.

The 2nd XI did extremely well, winning three of its five matches, one by as many as fourteen goals to nil. Several members of this team should prove useful assets to the first team next season.

In closing, I would like to thank Mr. W. G. Cretney for his continual, untiring work of building-up and encouraging the team, and for umpiring all our matches, George Wass for giving us a good pitch and finding apparently non-existent equipment, and R. G. M. Mirrlees for his work as Secretary.

CRITIQUE.

RAWLINSON, D. (Goalkeeper). He made an excellent start to his hockey career. His kicking is strong, his judgement very good.

He is still young with several seasons of school hockey before him.

BARDSLEY, L. A. (Right Full-back). Although he tended to be slow at times, he played quite well, improving towards the end of the

season. His hitting is very strong, but his positioning and anticipation are not always reliable.

NOTT, D. (Left Full-back). A very keen and tenacious player who plays to the full extent of his powers. He, too, started rather badly, but improved a great deal during the season.

SADLER, D. A. (Right Half-back). Occasionally erratic, but usually a good, reliable player, who maintained a high standard of play. His stick-work is very good.

FINCH, L. D. (Centre Half-back). A most reliable player, capable of a strong hit and flick. He opened up the game continually, and filled this difficult position admirably. Attacking or defending, he was always completely master of the situation.

MIRPLEES, R. G. M. (Left Half-back). A keen and hard-working player, who combined very well with his forwards. He works hard every minute of the game. His reverse stick-work is extremely good and reliable.

MAYNE, G. W. (Outside-right). Although often very good, he tends to hold the ball after the correct moment to pass it. Nevertheless, he shows occasional flashes of really good play, and improved considerably during the season.

EEDLE, J. H. (Inside-right). An experienced player, and a good captain, he showed very much improved form when moved to this position after a somewhat "shaky" start as inside-left.

SADLER, G. M. (Centre-forward). A very good player, with excellent stick-work and keen judgement. He is always willing to have a shot at goal, and wastes no time in exhibitionism.

McKAY, D. W. (Inside-left). His weakness lies in his fondness for over-meticulous dribbling, but, given the opportunity, he is capable of a very strong shot. He has the makings of a very good inside forward.

STRAPPS, R. D. (Outside-left). He possesses a good turn of speed. Sometimes an excellent approach down the wing was lost by delay in passing. He made every effort to fill the position capably.

Also played:—S. Lipton, N. E. Craig, K. S. Todd, R. G. Evans, Denby, Little and Warriner.

COLOURS.

Full Colours for the season have been awarded to J. H. Eedle L. D. Finch.

Half Colours have been awarded to R. G. M. Mirrlees, G. W. Mayne, D. W. McKay, G. M. Sadler and D. Rawlinson.

J. H. EEDLE.

* * *

J.T.C. Notes

AFTER exactly one year as Officer Commanding the J.T.C., Captain A. W. L. Halton resigned his commission on his departure from the Institute to take up a new post at Hertford Grammar School. We very much appreciate the considerable time and energy he devoted to the Corps and wish him every happiness in his new school.

Captain Bowen has now assumed command and we welcome him and assure him of our help and co-operation. We also extend our welcome to Lieut. Schofield who was commissioned last term.

The general standard of the Corps' work remains high but we are hoping that it will go higher still now that we are receiving help from the 40th P.T.C. to which we are attached. The drill and marching have improved considerably during the last two months under the three P.S.I's who come to us every Wednesday parade and who were also with us on our Field Day and at the Altcar shooting practices.

A welcome reversion to pre-war activities is the reformation of a J.T.C. Shooting Team; Capt. Bowen has devoted most Saturday mornings since April to the training of about 24 cadets and, from these, two teams competed in the County of Lancaster Rifle Association meeting at Altcar on May 31st. The "A" team was placed fifth in the "Open" Championship and second in the competition confined to Lancashire Schools. Frequent practices will continue to be held at Altcar when all those cadets who have obtained a "First" or "Second" class at Greenbank will have opportunities to shoot. I must impress on all cadets that attendance at Greenbank when detailed is essential. We offer our thanks to Lieut. Schofield for his help at the miniature range.

Many cadets had their first experience of a Field Day on May 30th, when the contingent spent the day at Raven Meols, Formby, Although a heavy thunderstorm and torrential rain curtailed activities, much useful work was done. After lunch a demonstration of a Section in the attack was given by the Cert. A. candidates.

The annual inspection was held on Thursday, June 12th, when the Inspecting Officer was Brigadier E. G. Audland, C.B.E., M.C. He expressed general satisfaction and offered many useful hints on various points, all of which go to make that extra "smartness" which indicates a really good cadet. He stressed the importance of keeping a uniform clean—of wearing it at all parades, of wearing the cap in the correct manner and of always saluting an officer.

Camp this year is being held at 164th O.C.T.U., Eaton Hall, Chester, from July 25th until August 1st. An exceedingly good programme has been arranged, so those attending are assured of a very interesting time.

Finally, cadets are reminded that subscriptions are due on the first day of term and a great deal of time and work would be saved if they would pay them promptly to the C.O. N. E. DAVENPORT.

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A.T.C. Notes

SINCE the last issue of the Magazine, the strength of the Squadron has increased considerably, thus offsetting the loss of a number of our veteran cadets. We are sorry to have lost Sgt. Evans, who left us at Christmas to train for a technical commission in the Army, and, more recently, Flt./Sgt. Eedle, who has commenced his period of training as a Radar mechanic in the R.A.F. To both we extend our best wishes for their future.

During the Hobby Show last term, a room in the School was devoted to the display of many interesting articles of the Squadron's equipment, thus enabling our visitors to inspect many of the pieces of apparatus, which they had probably never seen before. They were also given the opportunity to test their skill in an aircraft recognition competition.

The Easter holidays were very profitably spent by a party of Cadets, who went on Administrative and Combatant Courses at the R.A.F. Training Station at Halton. As usual, they worthily upheld the good name that the Squadron has won for itself there, and at the same time thoroughly enjoyed themselves with this very useful and pleasant instruction.

On the field-days we visited the R.A.F. stations at Sealand and Hooton. Unfortunately, a technical fault in the aircraft prevented flying at the former, while only a limited number of cadets were airborne at Hooton, as a heavy thunderstorm rendered flying impracticable in the morning. We were, however, given a demonstration at the latter station of one of the latest Spitfires "beating up" the air-field, in addition to a very interesting helicopter display.

In conclusion, we should like to congratulate Cpl. Nott on obtaining his "A" licence for Gliding, and to thank Mr. Schofield for the Boxing Instruction he is giving to some A.T.C. and J.T.C. cadets on Monday evenings.
L. A. BARDSLEY, Flt./Sgt.

* * *

Scout Notes

AT the conclusion of the Christmas term, the troop held its annual party, and all the scouts thoroughly enjoyed it; we must thank the chef for preparing tea for us. Many scouts made toys, as part of a Christmas "good turn" effort, which they subsequently gave as Christmas presents to poor children in the city area.

Early in the New Year, we renewed our Scout Promise at a Scouts' Own Service conducted by the Rev. Lionel Jacobs, and on St. George's Day the Rev. E. C. Lane conducted a special meeting in which we thought particularly of the noble work of Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scout Movement.

The high water mark of our activities was reached at the end of the Spring term when all members of the troop displayed great enthusiasm in arranging exhibits of scout equipment in Room 31, as part of the School Hobbies Exhibition. All branches of scout activity were represented in the display, and the individual patrols put much careful thought and work into preparing models of scout camps and the like.

In the Easter holidays some members of the troop went hiking in Derbyshire, and several Seniors accompanied Mr. Forbes on a cycle tour of the Yorkshire dales. At the end of the holiday P. L. Swallow represented the troop at the annual scout Service for St. George's Day at Windsor.

During the competitions held in the Association's Scout Week, the School troop won the City Association's Camp Fire Baton; and

Roberts and O'Mahony gave very good performances in the City Boxing Competition, held in the school gymnasium.

The troop held a special hike in North Wales during the Whit holiday, and several scouts enjoyed a full day in the countryside around Mold, the Loggerheads, and Moel Fammau. In the summer vacation seven of the Institute's scouts will represent the City Association in the International Scout Jamboree at Paris.

Swimming and Signalling have formed an important part of our summer programme, and many open-air meetings have been held at Greenbank and Childwall. Our field-day this term was held at Childwall, but a very heavy thunderstorm interfered with the extensive programme which we had planned.

This term we reluctantly say goodbye to D. E. Marsden and D. W. MacDowall to whom we give our hearty thanks and best wishes for the future; and we would like to give our best wishes to Mayne, Hodson, and O'Mahony who, we understand, are leaving at the end of the year.

Literary and Debating Society

THE large attendances and keen interest in the Society, which were reported at our early meetings, continued throughout the remainder of the session. The presence of several members of the Removes at the later meetings was encouraging and the interest shown by both Removes and Fifths in the Mock Trial last December bodes well for next session.

It is proposed to hold the Annual General Business Meeting of the Society for the 1947-1948 Session at the end of this term.

While the services of all the Society's officers have been considerable it would be unjust not to mention those upon whom the burden of most of the work has rested. Our thanks are due to Mr. W. H. Doughty, Mr. D. G. Bentliff, Mr. D. W. Rowell and Mr. W. G. Cretney for their interest, to the secretaries J. H. Eedle and D. E. Tynan for their patience and hard work, and to our Chairman, Mr. C. H. Moore, whose great interest, understanding and regular attendance have been so influential in making the session a success.

The debates held since last November were as follows:—

1946. November 19th—"In the opinion of this House a Third World War is inevitable." Proposer: P. L. Williams. Opposer: S. Lipton. Motion lost 15-18.

December 17th—Mock Trial. Judge: Mr. W. H. Doughty.

1947. January 21st—"This House deplores the record of the present government." Proposer: R. Shaw-Smith. Opposer: D. E. Tynan. Motion lost 17-28.

February 4th—"In the opinion of this House the film will supersede the theatre." Proposer: D. W. Martin. Opposer: D. Nott. Motion lost 7-20.

March 4th—"This House sees nothing in ghosts." Proposer: E. A. Griffith. Opposer: S. M. Henshaw. Motion lost 9-24.

March 18th—"In the opinion of this House man cannot get rich honestly." Proposer: J. A. Barbour. Opposer: D. W. MacDowall. Motion lost 4-23.

April 1st—Forfeits Quiz. Question Master: Mr. C. H. Moore.

J. H. EEDLE }
D. E. TYNAN } *Hon. Secs.*

Speech Day

THE guest of honour at the distribution of prizes was The Hon. Sir John W. Morris, C.B.E., and the ceremony was held in the Philharmonic Hall on Wednesday, December 18th: Mr. Lawrence D. Holt was in the chair.

To open the proceedings the School sang the carol "Angels from the realms of glory," after which the captain of the School, R. Shaw-Smith delivered (in the Latin tongue) an oration of welcome to Sir John Morris, to the Chairman, and to the Governors, in the name of his fellow scholars and the parents.

The Headmaster then gave his report. He referred to the overcrowding in the school buildings; in the pre-war days, accommodation for six hundred boys had had its problems, so what of the present position with over nine hundred? The Headmaster commended the school prefects and spoke of the sad loss of the School's late captain, Kenneth Boswell.

Touching on the modern trends of education, the Headmaster had a word to say against the present denigration of examinations: granted they do not disclose a boy's character, but they can reveal certain important aspects of character, for example, industry and perseverance. The Headmaster mentioned the importance he attached to the morning service held at School: one of the duties of a school like the Institute, he thought was to bring the boys up in a decent way of life with proper conceptions of right and wrong—in a word, in a Christian way of life. He liked to think that there was pride in the School and emphasized the importance of the uniform. A piece of advice which he gave to parents was to open good adventure novels to their children and to keep from them the "cheap transatlantic bloods", the effect of which was far from wholesome. Referring to scholastic success, the Headmaster drew attention to the high percentage of passes in the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate Examinations, and to the creditable number of University awards. Finally, the Headmaster spoke in praise of the staff, mentioning the help of Mr. Doughty: he referred to the sound meals provided for all, and had a word of praise for those who kept the school a fit place to live in.

Following the Headmaster's report, the choir, under Dr. Wallace, delightfully rendered two songs, "The Sandman," and "Past Three o'clock," and the School sang the "Sergeants' Chorus" from "The Pirates of Penzance," led by several lusty "policemen" of the staff.

After these songs the Chairman spoke. Mr. Holt said that his first task was to wish all a happy Christmas. He underlined what the Headmaster had said concerning the training of "character"; during the war, and indeed through all his life, he had been connected with those

who go down to the sea in ships, and knew at first hand how great a part character played in life. Mr. Holt recounted an interview he had had with a captain whose ship had been sunk and crew lost, and who had himself escaped after great privation, having attempted with great bravery to rescue his comrades: he told Mr. Holt his moving story and finally asked the question, so unnecessary, was Mr. Holt satisfied with his report? And when we came to present our report, would it be worthy? Mr. Holt then introduced Sir John Morris.

Sir John Morris, who is an old boy of the School, and one of His Majesty's Judges of the High Court of Justice, expressed his pleasure at being present on Speech night, and congratulated the Latin Orator. He mentioned his admiration and affection for the Institute and recalled the days when Mr. Whitehouse was headmaster, and told some amusing anecdotes of his own life at school. He spoke of some of his companions at School who have become famous in the world. Sir John stressed the value of the training which one receives at school when one is young, as equipment for life in a community and individually.

After he had spoken, Sir John distributed the prizes. The vote of thanks was proposed by Councillor D. J. Lewis, chairman of the Education Committee, and seconded by D. E. Tynan, one of the prefects of the School.

With two carols, "Silent Night," by the choir, and "A Merry Christmas," by the School, this outstanding evening in the School year was brought to a close.

Student Christian Group

IN October of last year several members of the Sixth Form attended a Student Christian Conference at Blackburne House, and, as a result of the interest shown in the Movement, it was decided to form a separate group at the School. Towards the end of the Autumn Term we began to hold regular meetings in the Prefects' Room, of members in the Sixth Form. With the help of invited speakers, who gave short introductory addresses, we discussed topical and theological Christian subjects which have ranged from "Sunday Cinemas" to "The Relation of the Cross to the Forgiveness of Sins." We would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the speakers who have so kindly come along to the School and helped the Group in its work.

In June we joined some of the girls from Blackburne House in listening to an address on "The Church in West Africa"; and to finish our activities for this term we held a symposium of short addresses by members of the Group, under the chairmanship of the Headmaster.

In the Summer Term a group consisting of boys in the Remove Forms was formed, and we hope that they will in time graduate into the Sixth Form Group. For any boys in the Upper School who are interested in joining, the aim of the Student Christian Movement is to be a fellowship of students who desire to learn about the Christian Faith and way of life.

D. W. MACDOWALL.
D. E. MARSDEN.
D. E. TYNAN.

Music Club Notes

THE Music Club received a blow this March when Mr. L. G. Young resigned his post of chairman. He has done much for the benefit of music lovers in the school, and the club members in particular extend their thanks to him. We wish Mr. L. A. Naylor a hearty welcome as the new chairman of our club.

Since the last issue of the Magazine we have had two interesting Members' Concerts, which have not, however, made up for the loss of our gramophone, on which our programme depended so much.

A. R. Pugh has started a series of lectures on "The Development of Concerto Form," which have been both interesting and instructive, and will be continued next term with, we hope, illustrations on the gramophone.

D. F. MOWLE.

Chess Club

THE Chess Club can look back on a year of notable achievement. We retained the Wright Challenge Shield with the score of seven points out of a possible eight. After the official presentation of the Shield we lost our match against the Liverpool Chess Club by 4 boards, but it was a praiseworthy effort against such formidable opponents. We thank Mr. Booth for the time he has spent and the interest he has shown in the team during the year.

We should also like to thank Mr. Rowell and Mr. Willott for coaching the Lower School. By next term the present team will have left and we must rely on the Juniors to maintain the School's prestige.

In the Easter term the House Chess competition for the "Silver Knight" was re-started. Thus all the pre-war Chess activities are now under way, and we may confidently look forward to another successful year.

The following boys represented the School in the matches:—S. Lipton, N. E. Davenport, A. B. Morris, E. J. Willcox, Cookson, D. W. MacDowall, Meikle. Also played:—N. Noonan, McKinnon, Prosser.
S. LIPTON (Capt.)

Engineering and Transport Society

THE Engineering and Transport Society was inaugurated soon after the beginning of the present school year, and its activities have included meetings after school, visits to Works, and whole-day outings to places of transport or engineering interest.

The first meeting took place on Thursday, November 14th, when Mr. Hosker gave a talk on the "Mersey Tunnel." On the following Saturday morning a party of 26 visited the Control Room at George's Dock, and the ventilating plant.

On Thursday, 2nd December, Mr. Forbes gave a talk on the transport services of the Liverpool Corporation, preparatory to a visit to the Edge Lane Works on the following Wednesday afternoon.

The first whole day outing was at the beginning of the Christmas Holidays on December 23rd. Despite very bad weather, 14 members assembled at the Landing Stage and accompanied Mr. Forbes to

Chester. On the return journey to Lime Street, a halt was made at Runcorn and the Transporter Bridge was visited.

During the Lent Term, talks were given by J. D. Wray, on "Model Aeroplanes," and by A. E. Phillips on "The Penrhyn Railway" (a slate quarry line in North Wales). On March 4th, Mr. F. W. Cook, the father of a member of the Society, was kind enough to come along and give a most interesting talk on the servicing of railway locomotives. This meeting was extremely well attended and Mr. Cook was kept busy answering questions at the conclusion of his talk.

On Wednesday afternoon, February 12th, the laboratories of the Faculty of Engineering at the University were visited, and the staff there spared no effort to give us a really interesting time. On March 1st there was a morning visit to the docks, together with a round trip on the Overhead Railway and a tour of inspection of the Gladstone Dock area.

There were two whole-day outings. The first on February 15th was to Bolton, Bury and Manchester. It included rides on the last surviving tramways in Bolton and Salford (both since closed), a walk through snowdrifts from Tonge Moor to Tottington, and a journey on the electric railway from Bury to Manchester. The second was to the Whittingham Light Railway, near Preston. This railway is unique in giving free travel to anyone who cares to use it; it serves the Lancashire County Mental Hospital and is maintained out of the County rates. Its rolling-stock is of distinctly original style.

The Summer activities began with a visit to Crewe North L.M.S. Sheds and the Locomotive Works on the last day of the Easter holidays, and it is hardly necessary to say that this was very well attended.

On May 10th there was a whole-day trip to Dutton, where the Preston and Liverpool main lines diverge. As heavy rain was falling in the morning the attendance was small, but the few who went had an enjoyable day.

The next outing, on May 27th, was a combination of rambling with transport interest. Fifteen members turned up for a trip which included rail travel from Seacombe to Chester by the L.N.E. line, bus from Chester to Mold, and a 13-mile walk, including the ascent of Moel Famman. We were lucky in having perfect weather. On May 31 the carriage sheds of the Overhead Railway were visited, and we were shown much of interest. We also had another round trip on the railway, most of it in the rebuilt and modernised train known to the staff of the line—and to the E.T.S.—as 14-7-30. The rebuilding of this train was carried out entirely in Seaforth Works, and the result compares favourably with any other electric rolling stock in the country. Another train is now in process of conversion.

North Wales, Easter, 1947

It was one of those mornings of which Liverpool has so many—a dull sky, a chilly dawn, and an outlook far from promising, when our party met at the Pier Head about 9 a.m. on April 10th. But when we reached Birkenhead the outlook was changed, and we had every prospect of a glorious day.

We passed the latticed iron girders of the cranes at Cammell Laird's Shipyards, and then Mr. Willan pointed out to us Lever's Soap Works. So the 'bus travelled on through town and country past Sealand Aerodrome, over the Dee at Qucensferry, and on by Abergele, Conway, Penmaenmawr to Aber, our 'bus destination.

Here we climbed up the main street and branched off along a mountain track, where we made the acquaintance of a stray dog—"Raff." He seemed rather out of place on the black heath, which was covered with the carcasses of animals killed by the severe winter. Finding our company somewhat more congenial he travelled with us for several miles.

We had our sandwiches at the side of a mountain stream, and then set off to reach the mountain's summit, from which we had a splendid view of the Nant Ffrancon Valley. The slate works of Bethesda lay in the centre, Bangor at its mouth, and at the top end Idwal, our objective for the night.

When we entered Bethesda, two of our party took our uninvited fellow-traveller, "Raff," to the police station, and left him in charge of the police authorities; then the route lay up the Nant Ffrancon Valley, which showed various signs of glaciation and numerous "roches moutonnées."

The next day we were still fresh; and after breakfast and a vigorous wash in a mountain stream, we climbed a rocky path between Tryfan and one of the Glyders. Then, striking right (which we learned later was the wrong way) we scaled a scree and some hard snows on the desolate slopes of Glyder Fâch. Keeping our height we passed to Glyder Fawr, and then sliding down another scree (a pleasant though rather sore pastime) we eventually arrived at Llanberis Pass; the four miles of road to the hostel were soon covered.

On Saturday, we had hoped to climb Snowdon, but owing to the prevailing mist, we had to go to Cae Ddafydd by an easier route; then following the mountain railway for a time, and turning down a valley, our party reached Llyn Cwellyn. From here the route lay along the disused track of the Welsh Highland Railway down to Beddgelert, then past Gelert's Grave and through the Aber Glaslyn Pass. Hoping to view Portmadoc and the sea, we made a detour, but we were disappointed and had to hurry to the hostel as it was rather late.

The following day we struggled from the hostel along a path to the valley of Llyn Gwynant, which was U-shaped and contained many roches moutonnées in its bed. By the side of the road was boulder clay. In the middle of the valley was a power station, from which a pipe-line conveyed power to Beddgelert, Capel Curig, Ffestiniog and Llanberis.

Two of our party went by road to Capel Curig; and the rest of us climbed up to Llyn Llydaw, from where we had a magnificent view of Snowdon. But, unfortunately, one of our number fell ill and had to be sent to Capel by car. The rest of us arrived some hours later, somewhat dispirited after our heavy day.

On Monday we left Capel Curig to see the Swallow Falls, and then making a detour round Capel, we crossed the peaty land beyond an old lead mine, until we penetrated the swampy wilds of the mountains. We came down into a valley, on the opposite side of which was a forestry plantation. This plantation was dissected by straight clear drives called "rides," which have proved invaluable in the prevention of fire. After returning to Capel, we followed the old road past the foot of Tryfan to Idwal.

On our final day, we did nothing strenuous. Coming down the Nant Ffrancon Valley to Bethesda, we visited a slate factory there. We saw the slate blasted and conveyed to the sheds where it was cut into stakes. Then we went by 'bus to Bangor; and after leaving one of our party who was going on holiday in Anglesey, we boarded the express 'bus for home.

We reached Liverpool an hour before the scheduled time. Home! No more bleating of lambs! No more snow or rain! Rest! Relaxation!

Junior Library

OWING to J.T.C. duties Herbert and Carson have had to resign from the library. However, we have had some new librarians helping us lately to whom we are much obliged. We are also indebted to Mr. Watson for his help in organising the library. Owing to the fine weather, etc., we are now open only on Tuesdays.

H. HURFORD
P. R. LUNT } Librarians

The Hobbies Exhibition

THE enthusiasm displayed by boys throughout the School in preparing entries for the Hobbies Exhibition was most commendable. All the houses gave great thought and careful preparation to the production of their respective plays and in encouraging their members to compete in all sections: and the wide range of exhibits revealed how diverse are the interests which boys pursue in their leisure time.

Perhaps the most intriguing display was that of the model sections, which were very keenly supported; but the number of stamps, coin and scrap-book exhibits showed that interest in collecting remains as great as ever, while the quality and quantity of entries for the handicraft, biology, art and map sections proved that the interest in those subjects was not confined to school houses only.

The Alchemists of the Science Sixth Form initiated parents into the mysteries of chemical magic; while the A.T.C., J.T.C., Scouts and E.T.S. all took pains to explain their activities and equipment in the rooms assigned to them; and visitors were given the opportunities to test their knowledge of several subjects in special "quizes".

In short, the avowed object of the whole Exhibition, which was to show the boys' interests outside the classroom, was admirably achieved; and we would like to thank Mr. B. M. R. Folland for his careful work of organization, and everybody else who helped to make the evenings such a success.

At some time or other, everyone was in the hall to see the house plays. The first play of the first house on Friday was "The Fortieth Man" by Freda Collins, presented by Alfred Holt house. This was far and away the most serious of all the plays and required a high standard of acting: as in "King Lear", for example, when Lear in madness has to maintain the sublime with the ridiculous dangerously near at hand, so in this play, a slight slip could have destroyed the atmosphere completely. The effects were difficult and perhaps open to criticism, though it is hard to see any alternative. Yet the actors acquitted themselves nobly and all deserve praise: W. Kyle was a good Roman officer, torn between his duty to keep discipline and his conscience: W. J. Roberts played the young woman with feeling: and when L. A. Bardsley shivered, all might shiver.

Cast:—P. L. Williams, A. R. Childs, L. A. Bardsley, W. Kyle, J. A. Barbour, W. J. Roberts, F. V. Terry. Producer:—Mr. W. G. Cretney.

"The Grand Cham's Diamond" by Allan Monkhouse, presented by Philip Holt house, followed. As one of the two farces of the programme, this production needed little characterization, but set out to do what it was intended to do, viz:—to raise laughs. G. W. Gallimore made an excellent father, harassed by his wife's hare-brained fancies, while his wife, in the shape of P. Jacob, would have been hard to replace: D. E. Bowman screamed admirably. The play fell from the heights towards the end, after a most promising beginning.

Cast:—P. Jacob, G. W. Gallimore, D. E. Bowman, A. R. Pugh, G. Jones. Producer:—G. W. Gallimore.

The second house began with Tate's play, "The Dear Departed" by Stanley Houghton. This was the second farce, and included a meal to be prepared and eaten, which is no small task. It also contained the greatest number of females of all the plays. The actors did well, B. Hechle and H. Ashby showed talent in the parts of women, and J. Noonan was especially commendable as the old grandfather. An amusing incident not mentioned in criticism occurred during the Saturday afternoon performance: grandfather's grey head produced a cloud of Talcum powder when patted by his affectionate daughter. This play (as also the previous one) required and achieved good, sensible, but not "soulful" acting.

Cast:—B. Hechle, H. Ashby, D. C. W. Sharp, R. G. M. Mirrlees, E. G. Jones, J. Noonan. Producer:—R. Shaw-Smith.

Following Tate's play came Hughes' "The Flash in the Dark" by Hugh Beresford. This was a complete contrast, as a thriller, and was given a sound performance. There was little movement about the stage, and such a play is perhaps harder to produce than one with plenty of action in it; S. B. Pierce was natural, and the other characters overcame satisfactorily the "stiffness" of their parts: W. H. Cookson suited his part, and his moustache and plus-fours suited him in it. The entry of R. D. Strapps into the action gave the play an impetus, and the audience was probably kept guessing who did the foul deed right to the end. The play was awarded second place.

Cast:—C. L. Owens, J. B. Weston, D. S. Gillespie, S. B. Pierce, N. A. Wilkie, W. H. Cookson, R. D. Strapps. Producer:—R. D. Strapps.

The audience of the first house, Saturday, saw first, "Tweedledum and Tweedledee," adapted from Lewis Carroll by S. M. Henshaw and S. Bootle. This little piece (for it could not be called a play) was full of charm. Much of the action comprised Alice's (H. S. Robinson) meeting with Tweedledum (S. Bootle) and Tweedledee (R. N. Dailey); Tweedledum told the story of the Walrus and the Carpenter (L. D. I. Bennett and W. L. Adlington, who shed a delightful tear), and finally fought with Tweedledee. The piece was short but pleasantly sweet, and its originality should be kept in mind.

Producer:—Miss I. B. Harkness.

Then came "The Poacher" by J. O. Francis of Danson House. This was the winning play and was excellently performed. The action, in a cottage in Wales, gave scope for homely touches to enhance a pleasing plot, and the production was thoughtful even to the Welsh newspaper on the mantelpiece. D. Denby made a good Twmas Shôn, and W. G. Jones as his wife was most convincing even in her needlework; Dafydd Hughes, by A. Williams, carried himself with the right a-deacon-on-Sundays air; D. E. Tynan as Dicky Bach Dwl was really excellent, from the eating of his pies at his entry to his final triumphant exit, and all his words were the "poetry" of the country and the open road and of the soul's freedom, which no one would take away from him. Mary Jane was real and "upstairs," and Fan barked well. The producer was D. E. Tynan.

Hughes and Danson repeated their plays at the second house, Saturday. On Saturday afternoon, Danson, Tate and Alfred gave an extra performance of their plays.

Mr. Hicks adjudicated and criticised the plays.

Vocal and piano soloists performed in the intervals.

Port Erin, Isle of Man. May, 1947

ON Thursday, 22nd May, Mr. Telfer, Mr. Jones and eight Sixth Form Biology Students embarked for the Isle of Man.

The object of this first post-war visit to the Marine Biological Station at Port Erin was to study some of the many types of marine animals and plants which are to be found so abundantly on and around the shores of the Island.

The first evening was spent in the rain on Bradda Head collecting and identifying specimens of wild flowers. Each morning the party could be found either on the rocks in search of specimens of seaweeds or dredging for plankton in the bay. After about half-an-hour of collecting they returned to the Station laboratories to examine the collection. Each student interested himself in some particular type, e.g. seaweed, sea urchin, sea anemone or star fish, and spent the remainder of the morning and afternoon studying its life history, habitat and structure in relation to the environment. Full use was made of the excellent library facilities which the Station provided. Mr. Telfer

acted as director of the course, and as general advisor Mr. Jones tried his hand at pressing some of the delicate red seaweeds.

Specimens unobtainable from the shallow water were collected as a result of two dredging trips out to sea in the Station's motor boat. After the second trip three of the party had no love for the sea in spite of the assurances of their colleague that milk is a certain preventative of sea sickness.

Each evening walks were organised and some of the natural vegetation of the area was identified. Bladder campion, Louse wort and Sea thrift were all in flower and very abundant. All enjoyed these field excursions, despite Mr. Telfer's propensity for leading the party through bogs, which proved a severe strain for Mr. Jones' "sole."

Everyone was sorry to leave on Wednesday afternoon after working in such pleasant surroundings and in glorious weather for six days.

D. W. MARTIN, B.Sc.

Gipsies

SOME ancient stories tell us how the gipsies are doomed to wander for ever because they are unbelievers. One old tale tells how a gipsy refused shelter to the Virgin Mary as she fled into Egypt with the child Christ; another says that it was a gipsy who forged the nails for Christ's crucifixion. It was for these offences that the whole race, according to these traditions, was doomed to wander over the face of the earth for ever.

How far these stories are true is not known. They were probably invented by the simple folk to explain the sudden swarm of strange people in Europe in the early fifteenth century. The gipsies themselves claim to have come from a land they called "Little Egypt." Nobody had ever heard of this land before, so they were popularly called "Egyptians," shortened in English to "gipsies." The French called them Bohemians, while other people called them by different names, especially "Zingari." The gipsies call themselves "Rom," meaning men, and their language "Romany."

Gipsies roam over almost every part of the world and it is impossible to estimate their numbers. Many of them are in Europe, especially in Rumania, Hungary and Spain. No matter where they live the language resembles that of other tribes. Many words were picked up from different languages, and it is now almost certain that they came not from "Little Egypt" but India.

In Great Britain the gipsies avoid three things, namely the Church, the sea and the Law Courts. They have no business with any government, for custom is their only law and the chief is their lawgiver.

Wherever they go, the gipsies do not mingle socially with the "gentiles" as they call all other peoples. They scarcely marry outside the tribe, and if a girl does she becomes an outcast.

Gipsy Lee, queen of the Kent gipsies, is said to have foretold the time when she would die and this was actually fulfilled. She was well known as a fortune teller and her funeral was very impressive as befitted her rank among her people.

When evening falls the gipsy encamps by the road-side while his wife cooks their meal in a copper kettle on stones and when night actually comes, the whole community falls asleep beneath the stars. Next day they move off once more. W. E. GARD, R.E.

The Significance of the Atomic Bomb

ONE fact, which strikes a student of world history, is the length of time men have needed to realize the full implications of those discoveries which have changed the whole aspect of life.

Prometheus may have suffered summary punishment for bringing fire from Olympus to the earth, but it took many thousands of years for man to appreciate even in part the importance of this gift. Although Roger Bacon, the discoverer of gunpowder, died in 1294, battles were still decided by swords and pikes until the end of the seventeenth century.

Similarly, many inventors of more recent times have died with the significance of their work unrecognized. It seems the atomic bomb will not prove an exception to this rule, although it is perhaps the most important discovery in the world's history. Despite the initial stir it created, it seems to have changed nothing. This is especially true of diplomacy. Many statesmen seem to have adopted the slogan of "Business (or power politics) as usual."

What is, then, the significance of the atomic bomb? First, the discovery of this new weapon has refuted the "philosophy," adopted during the last seventy years by many atheistical scientists, that progress is inevitable. These men asserted that the human race was advancing slowly but surely towards a terrestrial paradise, which has to be brought about by scientific discoveries. This belief has been shattered by the existence of a weapon which can be used by a few unscrupulous individuals to bring about the destruction of civilization. Pure materialism is no longer sufficient and a basis for morality is indispensable.

The second consequence is that war now means suicide. The Spanish writer, Unamuno, compared the progress of civilization to a tree which flourishes and dies, but not before it has produced seeds which can perpetuate it. We cannot even guess at the nature of the seeds of a civilization which has been destroyed by a series of atomic wars. Narrow aggressive nationalism is no longer permissible in the interest of the human race. The aims of statesmen are clear; they must evolve a system by which the world can have a supreme international authority to which all states must surrender a part of their sovereignty.

These are the two most important results of the discovery of the bomb. It must be obvious to everyone that the present conduct of the nations is out of touch with reality. Can anyone honestly say that diplomacy has yet adapted itself to the new conditions? It is the lesson of history that when men refuse to face the facts, they are usually brought to their senses by a catastrophe. We, the citizens of tomorrow, must never share the blindness of the present adult generation.

E. A. GRIFFITH (6 A.M.).

A Rural Idyll

"YES," his doctor had said, "you ought to try some nice long walks in the country. The fresh air 'll do you good."

So here he was in the country on this fine summer's day. But somehow Mr. Miggs felt that the charms of the open air life were rather exaggerated. He was not exactly a born hiker and his patience was almost exhausted. So were his feet. The heat was terrific, he thought, as he plodded grimly along the winding lane. And did that bus really have to come tearing down such a narrow road at breakneck speed? The fellow might easily knock someone down. Come to think of it, the road *was* rather narrow. My hat! And Mr. Miggs leaped into the ditch with a vigour that belied his years, narrowly escaping eternity and the oncoming bus.

Mr. Miggs arose from his hiding place, a wild glint in his eye. He glared at the fast-disappearing object of his wrath and relieved himself with a few well-chosen words. Then he surveyed himself. No bones broken, but his shoes—! Picking a frog out of the turn-up of his trousers as nonchalantly as he could, he resumed his journey leaving a trail of little puddles in the road to mark his progress. A young urchin came wobbling along the road on an ancient bicycle in the last stages of decay. "Hey, mister, your shoes are all wet. You ought to use good boot polish like me—the rich waxes soak deep into the leather. . . ." "You ought to get a bike," retorted Mr. Miggs, turning a delicate shade of strawberry and trying to look unconcerned as he stalked on.

Before long the road forked. Now Mr. Miggs rather prided himself on his sense of direction. "Ah well! We turn right here," he muttered to himself.

It was perhaps unfortunate that he should have chosen this particular little lane. At first it ambled gently along between deep cool hedges. But after a few bends it turned into a cross between Becher's Brook and the ruins that Cromwell knocked about a bit. Soon Mr. Miggs was almost in tears. Just then a signpost caught his eye. "Ah, a footpath," he thought. "Just the thing. It can't be worse than this." Which only goes to show how wrong you can be.

He stepped gaily over the stile. All the world was young again. Those dear little birds singing away so happily! Those pretty little flowers growing by the ditch! Mr. Miggs shuddered momentarily and changed the subject. At that moment he caught sight of a notice by the next stile: "BEWARE OF THE BULL." Mr. Miggs became conscious of a sudden feeling of weakness in the knees. The birds stopped singing. He paused, but no! the field was quite empty. He began to cross the field, his heart in his mouth. Was the field really empty? A loud "moo" froze him with horror. The bull! Oh heavens! He broke into a run. A second "moo" came from somewhere near at hand. A cold sweat broke out upon his brow. Memories of past sins came flooding in upon him. He ran as he had never run before. There was a gap in the hedge, a bit small, but it was that or nothing. Nothing? Mr. Miggs shuddered as he recalled the stories

he had heard of people being gored to death by mad bulls. In one desperate dive he was through the hedge, and emerging on the other side, panting, scratched and bleeding, but safe. He collapsed on the soft grass. Just then he heard a gruff and not too friendly voice: "What 'ave you been up to? Poaching?"

"Me? I er—oh nothing!" stammered Mr. Miggs, trying to look as innocent as a new-born babe and only partly succeeding.

"Come on it!" said the P.C. scornfully.

"Well, if you really want to know," said Mr. Miggs, "I've been chased by that confounded bull . . ." noticing for the first time that it was a cow.

"I've a good mind to put you on a charge for loitering with intent to commit a fel- a fel-, well trespassing," said the constable.

"Oh have you!"

"I'm only here to carry out the Chief Constable's orders. If you want to argue you'd better see him."

Mr. Miggs did want to argue, but contented himself with a few choice remarks on the subject of busybodies who had nothing better to do than interfere with law-abiding citizens, and concluded with a reference to bluebottles, which stung the policeman into life. He was a bit of a cynic and had an enormous vocabulary. Mr. Miggs felt smaller and smaller as the conversation proceeded. In the end he tried to stalk away with what he fondly imagined was a scornful sneer on his manly lip. The effect was, however, unfortunately spoilt by a jutting tree-root which lay in his path. Picking himself up, he crept away to the accompaniment of a few rather telling and decidedly juicy remarks from the arm of the law.

So if you should come across Mr. Miggs and you find the conversation flagging, you might mention (in an offhand way, of course) the subject of nice long walks in the country. J.N.

Power

STANDING, feet well astride, he stared grimly into the night, keeping his balance with the ease born of long years at his calling; he steadied himself against the rolling and pitching of his craft as she buffeted her way through the stormy weather. The eerie beauty of the scene held him entranced as the exhilarating bite of the night wind caught his weathered features.

Ghostly lights twinkled out there in the black, indicating the presence of others battling against the evils of the night so that the commerce of the world might carry on.

The crescent moon, just visible between the heavy black clouds, seemed to be moving across the sky like the phantom vessel of an old legend.

The bright brass rail beneath his hand was alive—alive with the vibrating rhythm of sheer power. He stretched out his hand; a single movement and the mighty engine would stop; another and it could be set racing again at his will. Such was the complicated, powerful, throbbing machinery under his command; these thoughts filled him with pride; perhaps one day he would command a fleet of such craft.

Pausing from his thoughts, he realised that it was becoming chilly out in the open and there was work to be done inside, so pulling his greatcoat about him he moved forward shouting in a voice like thunder: "Fares, please," and the ring of the coins in his pouch mingled with the roar of the engines.

D.M.

Oxford University Letter

Oxford,

June, 1947.

THE EDITOR, Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Sir,

First let me congratulate the School on the successes gained here during the past year—we look forward to greeting our new colleagues—and let me warn them and any others who may try next year, not to be afraid of the air of advancing middle-age displayed by some undergraduates at the moment. Believe me, the greying veterans and the young men who still get an issue of bananas mingle well. This new "serious" Oxford is a tolerant place.

Oldest amongst us is Mr. Hargreaves (J.A., not Henry); his air of erudition and purpose is terrifying. There is no surer pride for youthful conceits and vanities than conversation with him. Also at Magdalen are Mr. Britten, very rarely seen, and Mr. Corlett, stronger and more silent than ever. All the above, and Mr. Felgate, of B.N.C.—who rows with élan—I regret to say, study economics: a distressing sign of the times.

While we are at Magdalen, there is Mr. Halewood, who is pursuing the classics with vigour and surprising enthusiasm. He has a family and a flat in the High: fortunately his habits have changed since his earlier terms here: and there is Mr. Little, a quiet type with a sturdy *modus vivendi* which is impervious to infectious undergraduate follies.

Then there are Mr. Saunders and Mr. Gardner, now both family men, and both deep in the English language and literature. Mr. Saunders pursues politics and dwells far away; Mr. Gardner seems to lead a good, healthy life—I know no scandal of him. At Oxford, I believe, lives Mr. Leak, but no one seems to know any more than that. Also included in the vaguely-known are Mr. Simpson—"a bland smile and that's all"—believed to be at B.N.C., and Mr. Christian, who is at Queens, at which college also is Mr. Craig who is (a) in Morocco, (b) going to Morocco, or (c) just come from Morocco. He reads Arabic, which perhaps accounts for all.

Mr. Jacob leads a healthy sort of life at St. Peter's Hall; he, too, is married and always seems pleased with things, while Mr. Parker, of Jesus, leads a very full life, roaming here, there and everywhere. He acts at St. Hilda's, rows, plays football and bangs doors. His friend, Mr. Alan Brown, of St. John's, is very different: his brain, tuned up by a wartime practice of spoken and written Japanese, is attacking the more humane letters with the vigour of an angry bull-

dozer. Finally, at Wadham, is Mr. Cashdan, a young man with decided ideas. He, too, rows (an occupation reserved in less enlightened ages for slaves).

To close, let me urge you once more to send fresh talent here, and repeat last year's performance.

Yours, etc.,

CASSIEL.

Cambridge Letter

4th Court,
Cambridge.

Sir,

We wonder that you are still listening to us. Consulting our list of engagements, we wonder that we are still writing to you.

We see these children of the atomic age at Cambridge but rarely, and then usually at moments of great acceleration; we are the (light) Bluebirds that pass in the night. It is only on State occasions that our whole assembly appears, and these, like other State occasions, are generally much ado about the wrong thing. However, we have just enjoyed a very informal evening together, sir, at which our guest was the Headmaster, and we were thus enabled to observe most of our associates at close quarters round the dinner table, and we should like to reintroduce them to you through the cheerful clatter of cutlery. We shall slip aside their masks for a moment.

Their guest, the Headmaster, is seated on the right of the chairman, Mr. Barnard, who has emerged temporarily from his seclusion to organise the present gathering. Moving down the table on the left, one encounters first Mr. Barkley's flashing eyes. He spends most of his time loitering about the Fitzwilliam Museum, and is never seen without his umbrella, which suggests that he is either a confirmed pessimist or a prospective Liberal candidate for the next election. (The juxtaposition, sir, is completely without significance).

"Next Camus, reverend sire . . ."

Mr. Hodgkinson too is interested in pots—but only in those which make their appearance at four o'clock. In his indefatigable search for light refreshments, he is defeated only by Mr. Gadd, who cycles to college from his dwellings. This exercise has so developed his physique that he is now choosing between the next Olympic games and a contract with Mr. Rank. Indeed, we are all of us rising to fame, sir, and most of us are raising various things as well. Mr. Preston recently raised Cain in an amateur production of "Back to Methuselah." He is our foremost Socialist and owns a personal punt, in which on moonlight nights he moves freely from his dwellings to Newnham, conveying great numbers of similarly displaced persons for a moderate consideration.

In marked contrast to the confined limits of Mr. Preston's society, Mr. Doran's, true to the owner's principles, is Pembrokeian inclined to plebeian. He runs a coffee house in the ominously styled Red buildings, where he disburses hot coffee and even hotter Communist propaganda. It is a matter of opinion which is the more poisonous. Mr. Snow, his confrère, we are sorry to report, has abandoned his sole achievement to date: he has removed his moustache.

Mr. Richards, of course, makes films and entertains Czech poets to whom he talks rapidly in English, and who then reply even more rapidly in Czech. The supreme advantage of this method is that no one can contradict him, as people always do when they understand what he is saying—as far as anyone can understand what he is saying.

Our article is nearly complete. Mr. Noden and Mr. Lachs are not with us tonight. The veil of domestic bliss excludes Mr. Noden from our bachelor society, and Mr. Lachs has long since been caught up in the loom of Justice. Mr. Blackman's cheerful smile irradiates the whole table and conceals the bitterness of the inner man.

"Now our joy,

Although our last, not least . . ."
Of Mr. Parry, we speak with restraint. He boded fair. But what is one man against Girton. Now, alas, he always has Important Engagements. . . . He was a scientist in his youth.

This is our whole company. And now, sir, you must go, for we would not for worlds that you heard what is said this evening. We resume our masks and close the door behind you.

Yours, in infinite variations,

$\int \delta \tau$

Prefect's Letter

P.R., L.I.

Dear Sir,

Do not suppose that with witty phrase or with glib and oily art I shall gloss over the secrets which you await. I shall be short, and if you are disappointed, remember, you made the request.

Since my last letter to you, the seasons of Zeus have rolled on further, and after the winter rigours, which some of your readers turned to so cruel a purpose, I survey the prefectorial assembly once more, and behold, three newcomers, Messrs. Craig, Hopwood and Woolley. The first is burdened by dictionaries in general and the problem what is the Spanish for "Greasy pole at a Fair" in particular. Mr. Woolley would ride his motor-cycle roughshod over anybody, but would always apologize afterwards, I am sure. Mr. Hopwood, the secretary, should not be confused with his twin, Mr. Mirrlees, the comedian. Give the former a newspaper and he will mutter and chuckle to himself in the corner for hours; give the latter an old chestnut and he will crack it over the P.R. fire with a becoming originality, and will be satisfied with the groans of applause. Mr. Strapps has now resumed his studies of ancient literature, but the question of the moment is whether he can play the organ as well with his leg in his splint as out of it. Mr. Lipton can, however, play chess whatever the circumstances, and in manners is a chivalrous knight. The bishop is, of course, Mr. MacDowall who interrupts his sermons only to ask the score at table-tennis, in which game he wields his episcopal bat with diocesan dexterity. Mr. Bardsley plays his game with a 12 lb. weight, thrown for the glory of Alfred, and finds a cricket ball so light after this that he rarely pitches it before the wicket. His direction comes from Mr. Rawlinson who fortunately found out fairly quickly when the season changed from soccer to

cricket, and thus has an outlet for his expert knowledge. Mr. Marsden reads his favourite newspaper during the train journey from his home in the wild east; he is our new public relations officer since the lamented departure of Mr. Eedle. Mr. Horton reads history for no reason whatever and eats bananas to annoy everybody else, while Mr. Davenport justifies his existence by *a* the VI form Science Society, *b* real or natural science, and *c* "aces." (This amuses me, Sir, anyway). Mr. Todd spends four days idle, reasoning why he should not do duty on the fifth, while Mr. Mowle is either singing for his supper (he is a member of the monosong quartet of Messrs. S., E., S-S., and M.), or ruminating on $x \tan \theta$ where x equal the number of bottles of milk drunk in one day. Mr. Tynan acts any part from prefect to poacher, but, so keen is he, he will never act the scapegoat for anything rotten in the state of Danson. Now I come to the aristocracy. Mr. Willcox is a good mixer for he eats his breakfast in the afternoon; he comes to school in all manner of outfits and has given up fives for cards, so that we might call him a Jack of all suits, so handy is he at doing most things, even a spot of work. As for Mr. Shaw-Smith, he gave up working a long time ago. Now he says he is learning Welsh, claims to be writing a book, fancies he can sing even in Italian, and consumes toast with milk and gusto. He reads a line of the "Conquest of Mexico" per day. So I have finished. I bid you split your sides with laughter—if you can, and sign myself,

Yours defiantly,

VOX INHUMANA.

Old Boys' Notes

J. M. Pearson (1924) was awarded the M.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List, for services with the British Council.

We heard at the end of last year from R. E. Mathews (1920-27). He was then serving as Major, Movements Branch, Transport Division, B.A.O.R.

R. O. Williams (1918-25) has moved from Durham to Pinner, Middlesex.

G. Lloyd-Roberts (1926) is now out of the R.N.V.R. and is resident in Virginia, U.S.A.

L. M. Foster is now in charge of German broadcasts for the B.B.C.

G. H. Morton (1916) visited the School recently. He is living in Kirkcaldy.

A. Mundell (1929) has been in South America for some time, but is returning shortly for leave.

Among those who have contributed articles to the *Liverpool Daily Post*, recalling their school-days, were Sir Frank Baddeley and James Laver.

Hearty congratulations to Brigadier T. Robbins, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., who left the school in 1908, on being invested by the French President and Republic with the Legion d'Honneur in the grade of Officier in recognition of services rendered to France during the operations which led to its liberation in 1944. The accolade and the order were conferred on Brigadier Robbins at the French Foreign Office on

Tuesday, 18th February. Old Boys will remember with interest that Brigadier Robbins was the guest of the evening at our Old Boys' dinner of 31st January last.

We are happy to hear of our mistake in the report concerning John Kelly Creer. We now know that he managed to evade capture by the Japanese, and has since rejoined his wife and children. He is in London at present, at the Colonial Office, until he leaves again for Malaya.

Acknowledgments

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